

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

US2004/023260

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 7 G02B6/25

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 G02B

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ, INSPEC

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 5 838 850 A (MANSFIELD CHARLES M ET AL) 17 November 1998 (1998-11-17) column 6, line 50 - line 59 column 15, line 57 - line 60 figure 3A	1-7
X	PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN vol. 0103, no. 48 (P-519), 22 November 1986 (1986-11-22) & JP 61 148407 A (SUMITOMO ELECTRIC IND LTD), 7 July 1986 (1986-07-07) abstract ----- -/-	1,7

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents :

- *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- *E* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- *L* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- *P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

- *T* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
- *X* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- *Y* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.
- *Z* document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

29 November 2004

Date of mailing of the international search report

07/12/2004

Name and mailing address of the ISA

European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2
NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk
Tel (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,
Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Plouzennec, L

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

'US2004/023260

C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN vol. 1995, no. 01, 28 February 1995 (1995-02-28) & JP 6 294914 A (FUJIKURA LTD), 21 October 1994 (1994-10-21) cited in the application abstract	1-3,7
A	----- US 5 395 025 A (BORER VICTOR J ET AL) 7 March 1995 (1995-03-07) cited in the application the whole document -----	1-3,7

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

US2004/023260

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
US 5838850	A	17-11-1998	DE 29504071 U1	20-07-1995
			GB 2287552 A ,B	20-09-1995
			US 5842622 A	01-12-1998
			US 5839635 A	24-11-1998
			US 5829659 A	03-11-1998
JP 61148407	A	07-07-1986	NONE	
JP 6294914	A	21-10-1994	NONE	
US 5395025	A	07-03-1995	DE 69427930 D1	20-09-2001
			DE 69427930 T2	04-04-2002
			EP 0618466 A2	05-10-1994
			ES 2159531 T3	16-10-2001
			JP 6317711 A	15-11-1994